

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1406

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4129

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12/31/79

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: NATO SPECIALIZATION STUDY

REF: A. STATE 175077 NOTAL

B. STATE 175090 NOTAL

C. STATE 159069 NOTAL

D. USNATO 4003

E. USNATO 4032

F. USDELMC 490/73 P 281720Z AUG 73

SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE REPORTS RESULTS OF MEETING OF NATO SPECIALIZATION STUDY STEERING GROUP, HELD AT NATO HQ SEPT 4, 1973. AGENDA INCLUDED FORMATION OF SUB-GROUPS ON LAND AND AIR FORCES AND NOMINATION OF CHAIRMEN; DESIRABILITY OF ESTABLISHING SUB-GROUPS ON MARITIME FORCES AND LOGISTICS; CONFIDENTIAL

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AND TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE STUDY. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON TERMS OF REFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY AMBASSADOR SPIERENBURG OF

THE NETHERLANDS. PRINCIPAL ATTENDEES, IN ADDITION TO RUMSFELD, WERE AMBASSADORS KRAPF (FRG), PECK (UK). MENZIES (CANADA), DEPUTY PERMREP BAL (BELGIUM) AND ADMIRAL MINTER (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, MILITARY COMMITTEE). SPIERENBURG'S OPENING STATEMENT INCLUDED DISCLAIMERS THAT THE DUTCH ARE TRYING TO UNLOAD TASKS, DIMINISH SECURITY, OR DROP NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES, AND CALLED FOR AN INTENSIVE SURVEY BY DECEMBER IN ORDER TO GIVE MINISTERS THE FIRST CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS.

3. TO DO THE JOB BY DECEMBER, SPIERENBURG CALLED FOR A REPORT WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE LAND AND AIR FORCES SUBJ-GROUPS BY OCTOBER 25. THIS WOULD PERMIT TWO WEEKS FOR STEERING GROUP REVIEW AND 10 DAYS FOR DPC PERMREPS TO CLEAR FOR MINISTERIAL APPROVAL. STEERING GROUP APPROVED THIS TIMETABLE AS TARGET DATES.

4. REGARDING CHAIRMANSHIP, THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF WAS ASKED TO PROVIDE CHAIRMAN FOR THE LAND AND AIR SUB-GROUPS. REGARDING LOGISTICS SUB-GROUP, STEERING GROUP MEMBERS ASKED FOR TIME TO REFER OUR PAPER (REFS A AND D) POUCHED) TO CAPITALS. THE US SUGGESTED ASYG GARDINER TUCKER AS CHAIRMAN, AND IT WAS AGREED THAT HE WOULD BE INVITED TO TAKE THAT ROLE IF SUB-GROUP IS APPROVED. A SUB-GROUP WILL BE FORMED IF THERE ARE NO OBJECTIONS BY SEPT 12. QUESTION OF ESTABLISHING A NAVY SUB-GROUP WILL BE ADDRESSED IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS, AFTER RECEIPT OF A DUTCH PAPER. UK WILL PROBABLY FURNISH CHAIRMAN IF A NAVY SUB-GROUP IS ESTABLISHED.

5. US ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE, WHICH WAS CIRCULATED BY LETTER FROM AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD ON AUGUST 17 (REF. C), RAN INTO AUGUST 17 (REF. C), RAN INTO RESISTANCE FROM PECK, KRAPF, BAL AND SPIERENBURG. GERMANY, BELGIUM, AND THE UK ADVOCATED USING THE DUTCH TERMS OF REFERENCE. GERMANY SAID THEY MIGHT HAVE NO SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS TO THE US VERSION, BUT WISHED TO STUDY THE US LOGISTICS PAPER BEFORE AGREEING TO BROADENING THE TERMS OF REFERENCE. THE BRITISH INDICATED THAT THEY HAD SOME OBJECTIONS  
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TO THE US TERMS OF REFERENCE, BUT DID NOT STATE THEM IN THE MEETING. SPIERENBURG TOOK THE POSITION THAT IT COULD TAKE TOO LONG TO REACH AGREEMENT AND THAT THE SUBGROUPS SHOULD GO AHEAD AND ADDRESS THE LAND AND AIR FORCES PAPERS IN HAND (SEE USNATO 4032 AND USDELMC BRUSSELS 490) WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE. HE SAID THE PROBLEM WAS SIMPLE: THE DUTCH WERE GOING TO MAKE DECISIONS ON NARROWING THEIR ROLE SOON, AND IF NATO WISHED TO INFLUENCE THAT PROCESS THEY HAD BETTER GET ON WITH THOSE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS DEALING THE LANCE AND A REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT. THE US RE-SERVED ON WHETHER TO PROCEED ON THE BASIS OF THE DUTCH TOR.

6. IN SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE MEETINGS WITH THE US, GERMAN AND UK

REPRESENTATIVES INDICATED THAT THEY HAD NO BASIC PROBLEM WITH US OBJECTIVES, BUT FELT THAT THE DUTCH PROBLEMS SHOULD BE DEALT WITH FIRST AND THEN OTHER AREAS COULD BE EXAMINED. THE BRITISH HAD FOUR SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS TO US TOR: (1) THE INCLUSION OF REFERENCE TO LOGISTICS WHEN LOGISTIC SUBGROUP HAD NOT YET BEEN APPROVED; (2) "THE IDENTIFICATION OF AREAS OF RELATIVE ADVANTAGE WHICH PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES MAY POSSESS IN PERFORMANCE OF NATO MILITARY TASKS" WAS A SENSITIVE MATTER THAT NEED NOT BE STATED IN THE TOR; (3) "IDENTIFICATION OF AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION WHICH MAY CONTRIBUTE TO NATO OBJECTIVES IN THE CONTEXT OF POSSIBLE ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS" WAS TOO BROAD A QUESTION FOR THIS STUDY; AND (4) THE FINAL US PARAGRAPH CALLING FOR CONSIDERATION OF "OTHER APPLICATIONS OF STRUCTURING AND PATTERNING THE FORCES IN ADDITION TO PURE SPECILIZATION WITH FOCUS ON ATTAINING THE GREATEST RETURN ON OUR DEFENSE INVESTMENT" ENCOMPASSED THE WHOLE NATO FORCE PLANNING EXERCISE AND SHOULD BE DROPPED.

7. MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT US GO ALONG WITH DUTCH TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A FEW WEEKS, ASSUMING THE LOGISTICS SUBGROUP WILL BE APPROVED. THE LAND AND AIR FORCES SUBGROUPS COULD FIRST SEEK AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO DUTCH FORCE PLANNING PROBLEMS AND THEN MOVE AHEAD INTO OTHER AREAS THAT SEEM PROMISING. REQUEST WASHINGTON GUIDANCE.  
RUMSFELD

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SECDEF INFO BONN  
BRUSSELS  
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